

## Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 NIC-01 SAM-01 SAJ-01 EB-11 COME-00

TRSE-00 OMB-01 DRC-01 /130 W  
----- 035247

R 010450Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 164

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 3587

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD PINT CH CA

SUBJECT: PRC CANCELS CANADIAN TRADE EXHIBITION IN WUHAN

SUMMARY: IN THE "CRITICISM" MOVEMENT'S FIRST TANGIBLE EFFECT ON THE FOREIGN TRADE SECTOR COMING AT CHINESE INITIATIVE, THE PRC HAS CANCELED PREVIOUSLY AGREED PLANS FOR A CANADIAN TRADE EXHIBITION IN WUHAN IN LATE APRIL. END SUMMARY.

1. CCPIT INFORMED CANADIAN AUTHORITIES LAST WEEK THAT ITS TRADE EXHIBITION IN WUHAN HAD TO BE CANCELED. CCPIT SAID IT HAD HAD NUMEROUS DISCUSSIONS WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES, BUT DESPITE ITS BEST EFFORTS, THEIR DECISION WAS AGAINST HOLDING THE EXHIBITION. NO FURTHER EXPLANATION WAS GIVEN, AND NO ALTERNATIVE SITE WAS OFFERED.

2. AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED, FOLLOWING ITS CLOSING IN SHANGHAI ON APRIL 26 (ER 6, HK 3221), THE CANADIAN ELECTRICAL AND SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS EXHIBITION WAS  
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TO BE DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS, ONE GOING TO WUHAN AND THE

OTHER TO PEKING. THESE PLANS HAVE BEEN IN THE WORKS FOR A YEAR OR SO, AND THE CHINESE HAD PREVIOUSLY AGREED TO THEM. HOWEVER, THE CHINESE HAVE BEEN BLOSING HOT AND COLD ON WUHAN FOR THE PAST THREE MONTHS AND FINALLY SAID DEFINITELY NO LAST WEEK.

3. SOURCE IS JOHN P. HIGGINBOTHAM, COMMERCIAL OFFICER OF CANADIAN EMBASSY AT PEKING WHO IS IN SHANGHAI TO HELP WITH SETTING UP THE EXHIBITION AND WAS IN HONG KONG BRIEFLY LATE LAST WEEK. HE TOLD CONGENOFF THAT THE CHINESE HAVE BEEN GIVING THE CANADIANS ALL POSSIBLE COOPERATION IN SHANGHAI, WHERE THEIR EXHIBITION IS TO OPEN APRIL 16, AND SPECULATED THAT THIS WAS PARTLY TO MAKE UP FOR CANCELLING THE EXHIBIT IN WUHAN.

COMMENT: AS FAR AS WE KNOW, THIS CONSTITUTES THE FIRST TANGIBLE EFFECT OF THE "CRITICISM" MOVEMENT ON THE PRC FOREIGN TRADE SECTOR THAT HAS OCCURRED AT CHINESE INITIATIVE. THE INFORMATION ALSO PRESENTS FURTHER CONFIRMATION OF UNSETTLED CONDITIONS IN WUHAN (HK 2864 AND PREVIOUS).

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**TAGS:** ETRD, PINT, CH, CA  
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